



Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Forum for Small Business Tuesday, May 1, 2007 Providence, Rhode Island

Small business owners have an opportunity to discuss concerns about federal regulatory compliance and enforcement issues during this Forum.

WHO: SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens, members of the Regional Regulatory Fairness Board and representatives of Federal regulatory agencies will hear concerns, comments and complaints about Federal regulatory enforcement and compliance. Small business owners, representatives of community organizations and trade associations, and community and business leaders are invited to testify about compliance and enforcement of regulations by Federal agencies.

WHAT: To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among Federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness hearing. Concerns and complaints aired at this forum will be directed to the appropriate Federal regulatory agency. Testimonies gathered at these hearings are also reported to Congress.

WHERE: Rhode Island Convention Center, Room 558, 1 Sabin Street, Providence, RI 02903

WHEN: Tuesday, May 1, 2007
Registration: 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Hearing: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Small business owners may testify during the hearing by registering in advance. Call Norm Deragon at (401) 528-4561 Ext. 4576 at the SBA Rhode Island District Office or send an e-mail to normand.deragon@sba.gov. Testimony may be submitted in writing in advance or at the hearing. Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing.

For more information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman, or call José Méndez at (202) 205-6178.



Make Your Voice Heard!



All of the SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance.
Contact: Norm Deragon at (401) 528-4561 Ext. 4576.